



THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

NORMAN · OKLAHOMA

October 19, 1954

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I wish to gratefully acknowledge receipt of a culture of your W-478 mutant of E. coli K-12. The isolation of a diploid strain from this will afford an excellent opportunity for one of my students, R. B. Webb, to obtain experience in working with recombination. If at any time in the future you should be working with additional diploid strains, I would appreciate your sending me transplants. I am very interested in the apparent lack of correlation between lethal radiation response and ploidy of bacterial cells, and I now have a project started to investigate this discrepancy.

I was most pleased to hear of your discovery of conjugal pairs in K-12 crosses. Such direct evidence should convince even the most thick-skulled bacteriologists that recombination is a valid phenomenon. When this is published please send me a reprint. I would also appreciate receiving reprints of the rest of your current work.

I hear that you and Dr. Sonneborn are preparing a book on microgenetics. I look forward to the appearance of this book since I feel it should be most useful in presenting this rapidly expanding field of science to students.

I will keep you informed of any progress we make on our radiation studies.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "JB Clark".

J. Bennett Clark
Assistant Professor

JBC:mh